

1906.

Consular.

CHINA.

972

JAN 8 1906

Peking
Novr. 13. 1905

No. 972

Received by

F. 972

Lieut. E. Satow

No. 147

Last Paper.

(Print.)

(Subject.)

Leave to consul at ^{Litton} Tengyueh

Was sanctioned 15 mos. leave from
arrival of relieving officer Mr. H. A. Bkewell.

(Minutes.)

C. C.

By approve.

HD
9/1/06

SEEN BY THE

- 9 JAN 1906

CHIEF CLERK

(How disposed of.)

~~Draft Lieut. Satow~~
~~(No. 2) 12/1/06~~

SEEN BY THE

15 JAN 1906

CHIEF CLERK

[As he has not completed five
years residence in China since he
last returned from leave he will
go on half salary six months after
leaving his post, but the med.
Cent. will cover half travelling
expenses. ^{W. H.}]

By

Chief Clerk.

Draft to Lieut. Satow
cancelled

See (1497)

(Action
completed.)

(Index.)

210

Next Paper.

972
JAN 8 1906

131

BRITISH LEGATION,

PEKING.

November 13, 1905.

No. 147.

Consular.

My Lord,

I have the honour to enclose herewith copy of a despatch and its enclosures which I have received from Mr. G. Litton, His Majesty's Consul at Tengyueh, applying for fifteen months furlough from February or March next year.

Mr. Litton will not have completed five years'

residence until October, 1906, but in view of the enfeebled state of his health, I have thought proper to grant his request; and I have accordingly informed him that he may proceed to England on leave of absence on sick certificate on the arrival at Tengyueh of Mr. H. A. Ottewill, whom I have instructed to relieve him.

I have the honour to be,

with the highest respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

humble servant,

Ernest Satow

The Marquess of Lansdowne, K.G.,

&c.,

&c.,

&c.

Tengyueh, Accts.
Oct. 15, Oct. 6, 1905.
Medical Certificate.
October 3, 1905.
Major Barry, I.M.S.
August 7, 1905.

COPY.

P. A.

No. 15

Receiving Nov 13

Sir E. Salter

No. 147, Consular

3 Enclos:

Recd.

By Day

Mr. Hilton has been granted
sick leave

Sir E

H

972

JAN 8 1906

132



H. M. Consulate,

Tengyueh,

October 6, 1905.

COPY.

P. A.

No. 15.

Sir:-

I regret to have to apply for fifteen months furlough on Medical Certificate from such date in February or March 1906 as you can conveniently relieve me.

I shall not have completed five years service till the autumn of 1906, but as you are aware, my duties in Yunnan during the last four years have been heavy and have entailed much physical labour in travelling through difficult and sometimes unhealthy country. My health is now such that it is only with increasing difficulty that I can perform my official duties, and there is I fear, little chance of any improvement without a complete rest. I am in particular troubled with an increasing deafness for which I underwent special treatment when I was last in Europe, and I was then warned that my hearing might become permanently affected

if

Sir Ernest Satow, G.C.M.G.,

H. M. Minister.

Receiving
Sir E. Satow
Nov 13

if I was not careful to seek the advice of a specialist in the event of any prolonged recurrence of the trouble. Under these circumstances I feel I ought not to remain in China, if and when you are able to relieve me of my duties here.

In support of my application I attach Medical Certificate by the Consulate Hospital Assistant and extract of a letter from Major Barry, I.M.S., who treated me when I was in Burma and has since advised me by letter. Since the date of this letter my health has deteriorated.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) G. Litton.

Acting Consul.

Cope

1903
Temple
Mr. Linton
Oct. 6

To
Sir E. Salton
Accounts, No. 15

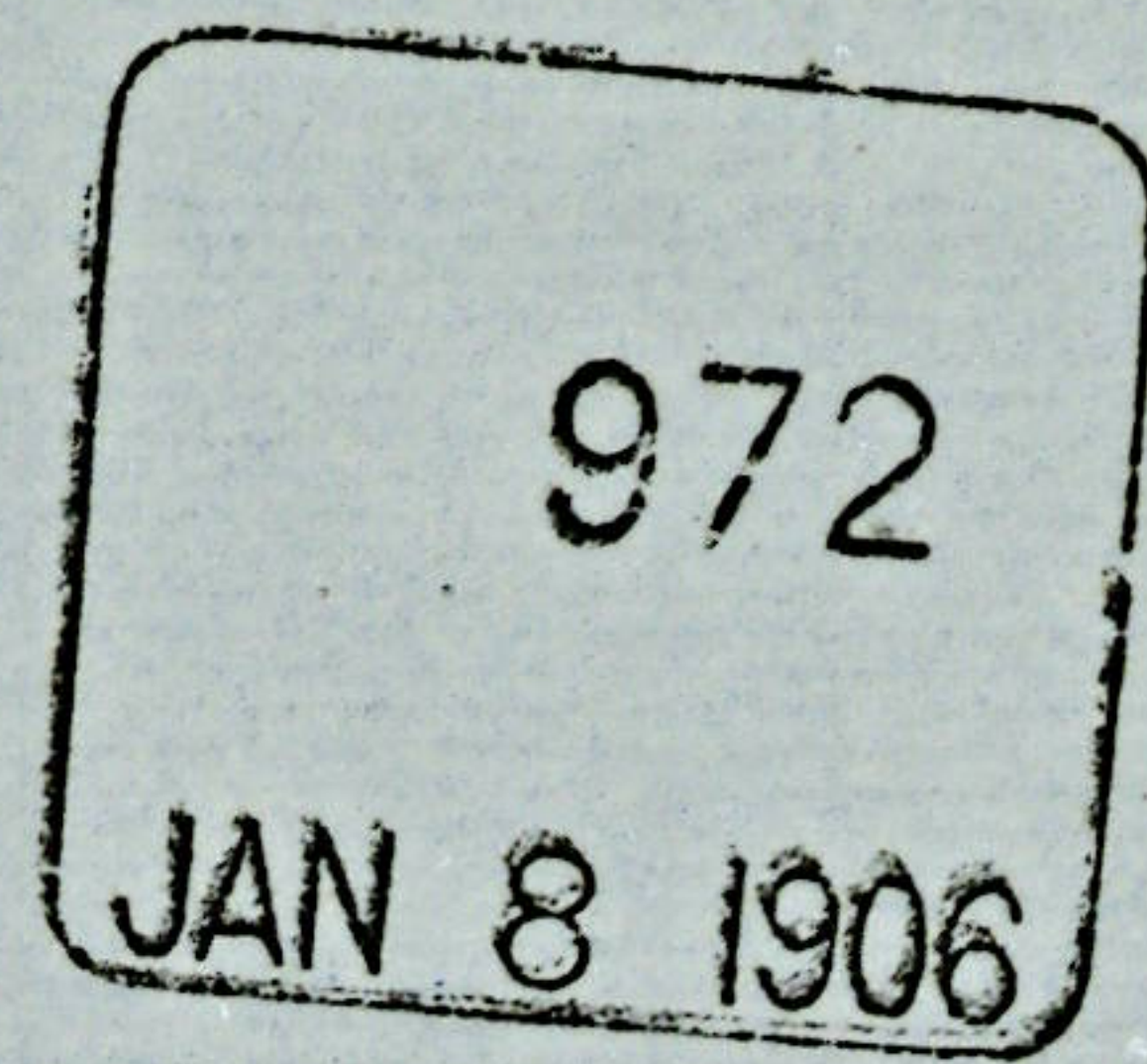
Enclosure 1 in

Sir E. Salton's

No. 147, Circular

Peking

Nov. 13, 1905



Copy.

I do hereby certify that Mr. G. Litton, H. B. M. Consul, Tengyueh, has been under my medical treatment for many months, for giddiness attended with loud noise and occasional deafness of the left ear. I, therefore, recommend that Mr. Litton may be granted leave to proceed to England for rest and special treatment there.

(Signed) Ram Lal Sircar

Medical Officer to

H.B.M. Consulate, Tengyueh.

Dated, Tengyueh,

the 3rd, October, 1905.

Tengyueh
1905

Oct. 6

Copied

Medical Certificate
regarding Mr. Hutton's
Health

Enclosure 2 in

Sir E. Salisbury
No. 147, Concular

Peking Nov. 13, 1905

Copy.

972
JAN 8 1906

135

Extract from letter from Major Barry, I.M.S., to Mr.

Litton, Tengyueh, dated Maymyo, Burma, August 7th, 1905.

X X

I remember my advising you to get an Ammonium Chloride inhaler. I think you can stay out till next April if you are anxious to do so, but I should advise your going home then and consulting an ear specialist. You are likely to be worse in wet weather and I should advise you to use the inhaler regularly - etc: (the rest of the letter is medical advice).

(Signed) C. Barry.

True Copy.

(Sd.) G. Litton.

Tengyueh
Medical Certificate

Aug. 7
Extract from a letter
from Major Parry, I. M. S.,
regarding Mr. Kitter's
health

Enclosures 3 in
Sir S. Salter's
No. 147, Connaught
Place
Belting
Nov. 13/05

1906.

Consular

136

CHINA.

973

JAN. 8. 1906

No. 973

Received by

F. 943

Peking

Nov: 13. 1905

(Subject.)

Mr. E. Satow

No. 148 Consr.

Promotion of Mr. G. Ditton to be
Consul at Teng-yueh

He declines to accept "promotion over
the heads of his colleagues."

Last Paper.

Mr. E. Satow's No. 55
Consr. of April 14/05

(Print.)

(Minutes.)

See Mr. E. Satow's private letter to Mr. Lockrell annexed.
Mr. Ditton is coming home on 15 months sick leave & perhaps on
the expiration of this period he will view the matter
somewhat differently.

I think we should express our concurrence in Mr. E. Satow's views
on the general question.

✓ China Dept.
✓ Chief Clerk.

SEEN BY THE
- 9 JAN 1906

(How disposed of.)

Mr. E. Satow No. 3 Consr.
✓ Jan. 19. 06

SEEN BY THE
27 JAN 1906
CHIEF CLERK

In principle there can be no doubt
that selection for promotion by merit is
right, but it is unfortunate that a
beginning should have been made by
passing over Mr. Hillier. Whatever mistake
he may have committed, and I gather
from Mr. E. Satow's private letter that he
did make one, he has the reputation
of

(Action
completed)

(Index.)

Next Paper.

1663

+ See 1907 correspondence to this.

Extract from a letter
Aug. 7

forming an Excellent Official, has been
favorably mentioned by Sir E. Satow himself,
and has earned the commendation of the
Viceroys of India by the good work he did
with the Tibet Expedition and in the
Subsequent negotiations with Tang. There
can be no doubt that he is fully qualified
for promotion, and he feels keenly the
loss of "face" he will incur in China by
some one being promoted over his head.

If this little incident with the Japanese
Litter could be utilised to benefit Wilton it
would be a good thing.

182.

Mr. Wilton would have grumbled more
than ever if he had been appointed to
Tengyueh. I am sorry for Mr. Wilton
whose health has suffered from being always
employed in the South of China.

Sir E. Satow should be supported in
his views on discipline and promotion.

WLL

Mr. Campbell & Co

ffl

I agree that Sir E. Satow must be
supported. As regards Mr. Wilton Lord Curzon
wrote to Lord Sanderson a short time ago &
I sent the letter privately to Sir E. Satow, if possible
the latter may now recommend him. Feb 11-Jan-06

(973)

Peking (137)

13 November

1905

My dear Cockerell,

I am sending you
copy of a despatch
and private letter from
Litton, in which he
refuses to be made
Consul at Tientsin
on the ground that
he cannot accept
promotion over the
heads of his seniors.
The Chief Clerk will
be able to show you

a despatch from Litton
of July 1, in which
he gives similarly
eccentric reasons for
not drawing acting
pay as Consul-general
at Yünnanfu when
acting there. I sometimes
think Litton is a little
off his head, and
these efforts at dictating
how appointments are
to be made and
enrolments to be

distributed rather confirm
that view.

138

The Consular service
of course is in favour
of promotion by strict
seniority, because then
the indolent and the dull
are at no disadvantage.
I maintain on the
contrary that promotion
to the rank of consul
must be by selection
of the fittest, and that
the question who is fittest
for a particular post
involves a number of
considerations.

Wilton has been telegraphing
to me from Simla that
he understands he has
been passed over, and asking
on what grounds. I have
not answered these
telegrams. He is in my
opinion a very lucky
fellow to have seen Lhasa,
and the only man who
goes over his head is
Litton, whose promotion
I recommended for what
seemed to me excellent
reasons. If Wilton wishes
to grumble, he had
better do it to the F. O.,

(973) 139

but it would be wiser
of him not to do it.
When he was acting
at Chungking he committed
a serious neglect of
duty in not reporting
the sentence passed on
the murderer of Fleming
in Kweichow, a sentence
which was very inadequate.
But I have not reported
him to the F.O.

Yours sincerely
Lancel Satow

over

N.B.

(There is some correspondence in 1907 abt. Mr. Waller's position. The "serious neglect of duty" imputed to him in Sir E. Salomon's private letter seems to have been imputed to him quite wrongly.)

&C.

so that the latter has served the public some two years more than the former.

It is however, I venture to submit, not seniority that should be looked at in selecting officers for certain posts, but capacity and special fitness. There can be no doubt, it seems to me, that for the appointments of Consul-General at either Shanghai, Canton, Hankow or Tientsin, the best man should be chosen from among those who have attained the rank of Consul, and that the same rule should also be applied with regard to the appointments at Chengtu and Yunnanfu. For a —Consulate in the remote interior again, a married man is evidently unsuitable, unless he is willing to send his wife and children home and proceed to his post alone; but that for many reasons is an unsatisfactory arrangement. In Mr. Litton's case there was the further reason for choosing him that he is thoroughly acquainted with the local affairs of Tengyueh and has already done excellent service there.

It is of course open to any officer to decline promotion, but while recognizing the generous feeling which leads Mr. Litton to refuse the post on the ground that it would confer on him promotion over his seniors, it does not appear desirable to

142

973

JAN 8 1906

to encourage the idea that Members of the Consular Service may indicate to His Majesty's Secretary of State the principles upon which promotion ought to be conferred.

In the present instance accordingly I propose to abstain from recommending any other gentleman to fill the office of Consul at Tengyueh until I shall have learnt the view of the general question entertained by Your Lordship.

I have the honour to be,

with the highest respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

humble servant,

Ernest Satow

143

COPY.

973
JAN 8 1906

H. M. Consulate,
Tengyueh,
October 7th, 1905.

P. A.

Separate.

Sir:-

I have the honour to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your despatch, of June 28th, informing me that I am appointed to be His Majesty's Consul at Tengyueh.

While asking permission to express my respectful thanks to you for having recommended my name for this post, I have already submitted to you in a private letter, the reasons for which I must request to be permitted to decline, at the present time, the substantive appointment. I venture to hope that these reasons will appear to you to be just and sufficient. I must also express my regret that, owing to the long period necessary for postal communication between Peking and Tengyueh, and owing to my ignorance of the conditions under which my name was recommended to His Majesty's Government I was not able to communicate to you at an earlier date the considerations which render it impossible for me to accept the appointment.

I

Sir Ernest Satow, G.C.M.G.,
His Majesty's Minister.

I hope however that it can be cancelled or withdrawn
without causing serious trouble or inconvenience.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) G. Litton,

Acting Consul.

COPY.

Priva

1905
Temple
Mr. Litten Oct. 7

to
Sir G. Salton
Separate

Enclosure 1 in
Sir G. Salton's
No. 148. Circular
Belting
Nov. 13, 1905

973

JAN 8 1906

145

T E N G Y U E H ,

20 / 8 / 05.

COPY.

Private.

Dear Sir Ernest Satow,

I have to express my regret for some trouble which I may have caused to you concerning the appointment to this Consulate for which you very kindly recommended my name. I wish to explain that I had no idea that I was being promoted over any one's head, especially over that of my friend Tours. You were good enough to write a private note to me, in which you said that you thought I had as good a claim as any of those who were entitled to the appointment by mere seniority. I misunderstood this as being a reference to the arrangement by which I originally came into the service in China from the Straits, the result of which was to put me under some officers who entered Government service after me but over some officers who entered the Chinese Consular Service before me.

Had I understood that I was being offered promotion, as I have now ascertained, over the heads of my colleagues I should at once have requested you not to let the matter go further, as it seems to me quite clear that I cannot and ought not to accept any such appointment.

Directly

Tengyueh
1905
Oct. 7

Directly I was acquainted with the facts I sent a telegram to Mr. Campbell, and I now beg to confirm to you what I said to him, namely that I can on no account accept the appointment under these circumstances, and I request that the Foreign Office may cancel it. I would venture, most respectfully, to point out that if it is thought that this post requires special experience which I happen to have, it is open to His Majesty's Minister to retain me here in my present capacity, an arrangement which I should have no right or desire to question.

Again expressing my thanks for your kindness in recommending me, even though I am unable to accept the appointment.

I remain, &c.,

(signed) G. Litton.

1905

Tenquiel
Mr. Hutton Aug. 28

to
Si S. Salas
Private

Enclosure 2 in
Si S. Salas
No. 148, Canelas
Peking
Nov. 13, 1905

LD.

(973)

F.O

(147)

Jan^y 19 1906

Draft.

Mr. Salton
No 3. Consular

Sir,

I have to acknowledge
the receipt of your despatch
No 148 Consular of 13 Nov. last
& to inform you in reply that
I concur in the opinions you
express with regard to ~~with~~
~~regard to~~ the selection of
officers for certain posts in the
China Consular Service.

It should certainly not be
considered that when a
vacancy in the Service occurs
the Sec^y of State is in any
way bound by the seniority
of the candidates in selecting
a suitable officer for the post.

Wm. E. Grey

SEEN BY THE
10 JAN 1906
CHIEF CLERK

China Dept
C.C.

Langquish

1905

Aug. 28

1906.

Consular.

148

Teng Yuh

China

1663

15th December 1905

No. 1663

JAN 17 1906

Received by

lost. F. 1663

(Subject.)

973

Acting Consul
Litton
(separate)

acknowledges receipt of Commission as
H. M. Consul, and requests instructions
in view of Mr. Litton having
declined the appointment.

Last Paper.

973

9

(Print.)

(Minutes.)

The said death of Mr. Litton renders any action unnecessary

JLD
13/1/06

(How disposed of.)

SEEN BY THE

16 JAN 1906

CHIEF CLERK

(Action
completed.)

(Index.)

Next Paper.

1663

H.M. Consulate

JAN 17 1906

Teng Yueh

149

December 15th 1905.

Separate.

My Lord. In accordance with your Lordship's instructions dated June 23rd last, I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt, per His Majesty's Minister at Peking, of His Majesty's Commission appointing me to be Consul at Teng Yueh.

I would beg leave to express to your Lordship my respectful thanks for having recommended me for this appointment; at the same time, for reasons which I have communicated to Sir Ernest Satow I feel myself compelled to decline it.

✓

His Majesty's Principal Secretary
of State
for Foreign Affairs.

I would therefore request permission
to return the Royal Commission to
the Foreign Office, as it was issued
under a misapprehension. I much
regret any inconvenience which may
have been caused to H. M. Government
in this matter, but this has been
chiefly due to the remoteness of
this post, and to the consequently
prolonged delay in postal
communication with H. M. Legation

I have the honour to be

My Lord.

Your Lordship's most obedient
humble servant

Chilton

Acting Consul

1906.

Consular.

CHINA.

1497
JAN 12 1906

15

Peking
Jan: 12, 1906

No. 1497

Received by

F. 1497

Telegram.

(Subject.)

Mr E. Satow

Death of Consul Litton on
Jan: 9
Reports

Last Paper.

(Print.)

(Minutes.)

This is very sad. He was on his way home on leave.
Private Sec^y, China Dept. P.C.
to inform relatives JLH
12/11/06

(How disposed of.)

Mr. Peake, Bird, Collins & Co. Jan 12

Do you know where his relations live
& who they are? I don't.

L.H. 12/11/06

SEEN BY THE
15 JAN 1906
CHIEF CLERK

We do not know but Mr. Litton's solicitors were
Mess^{rs} Peake, Bird, Collins & Co. 6 Bedford Row. W.C.
we had better
communicate with them asking that family may
be informed of his death, unless they are already
aware of it.

JLH
12/11/06.

(Action
completed)

8

(Index.)

210

Next Paper.

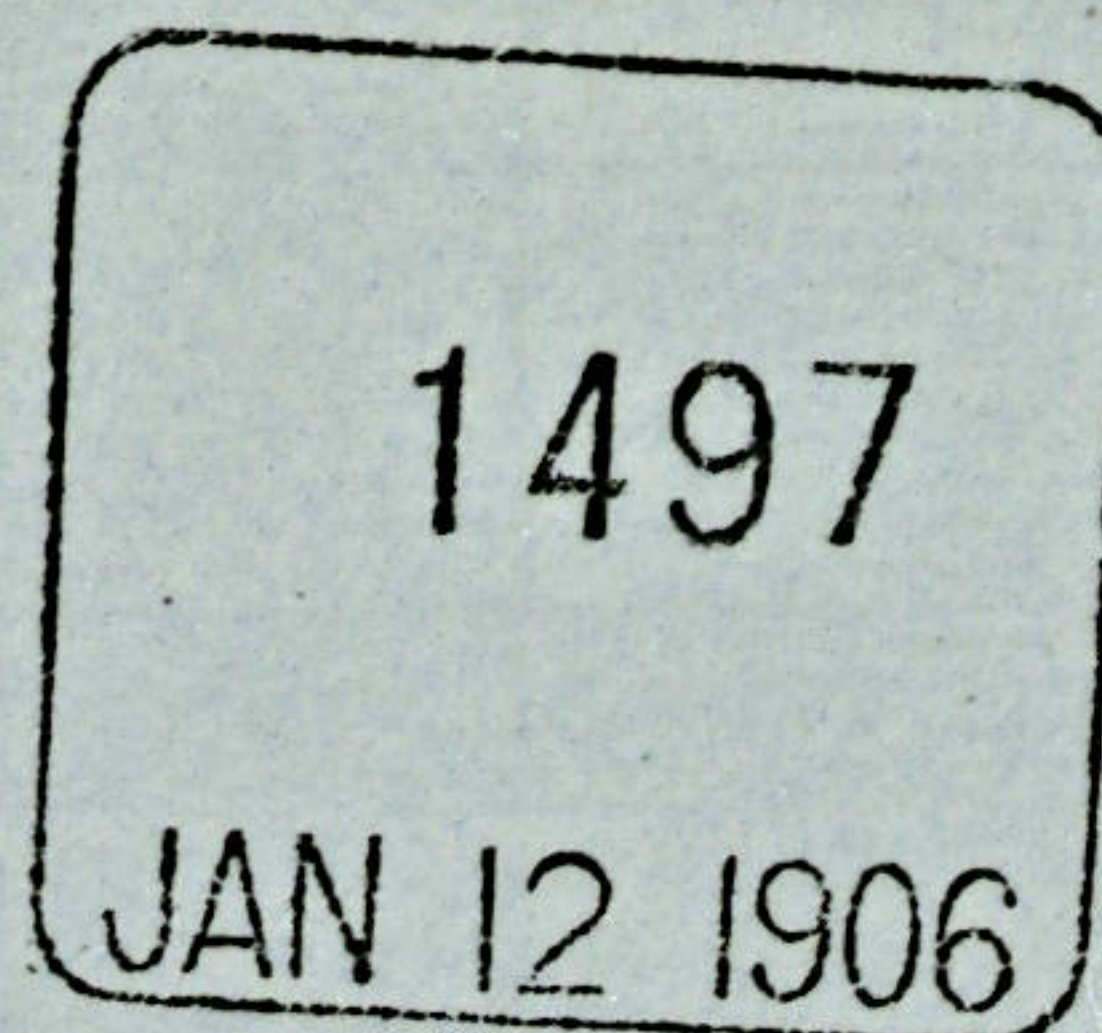
1965.



Decode of
TELEGRAM

FROM

Sir E. Satow, Peking.



166

Dated 12.50

Received 9.50

a.m. 12th January 1906

Regret announce death of
Litton from fever at Kungai Jan: 9
reported to me by Govt of Burma.
Satow

Per Keyser

(1497)

7.0 (157)
Jan. 12 .06

Draft

Mr. Peake, Bird, Collins & Co
6 Bedford Row
We

[Signature]

TELEGRAM.

Those addresses are not known to this
Office, should they not already be aware
of the fact.

Gentlemen.

I am directed by the
Secretary of State for Foreign
Affairs to inform you that
he has received a telegram,
dated ^{today} 12 Jan, from the
Minister in Peking reporting
the death ^{from fever} of Counsel Litton
at Kingai on the 9th inst; &
am to request that you
will inform his relatives &
express to them Sir E Grey's deep
regret at the sad occurrence.

(Sd) F. H. Villiers

1906.

Consular.

CHINA.

1965

JAN 15 1906

68

January 15th

No. 1965

Received by

F. 1497

Messrs Peake
Bird Collins
& Co.

(Subject.)

Death of Consul Litton

Have informed relatives. Is there
any later will than the one they have?

Last Paper.

1497

(Print.)

(Minutes.)

Mr Barker called here this morning & I told him we would telegraph to
Peking - at the expense of the estate - and try and discover whether Mr
Litton had drawn up a will or codicil in China, subsequent to the one which
he left with Messrs Peake, Bird, Collins & Co.

(How disposed of.)

Tel. 6.20 p.m.

Jan. 15

(code)

draft. Messrs Peake Bird Collins
& Co.

17/1/06

Tel. to Sir E. Satow:

"Your Tel. of Jan 12

Ascertain if possible whether Litton left a will or codicil deposited with
Court at Shanghai or among his papers at Tengyueh."

and inform, adding that cost of telegram will be claimed from them
in due course.

SEEN BY THE

18 JAN 1906

Cy/Peake Bird Collins & Co.

May 17. 1906.

NOTED C. C. DEPT.

(Action
completed.)

(Index)

87

210

Next Paper.

4490

Consular Dept.

The cost of this telegram £3.17.-. should now
be claimed from Messrs Peake, Bird, Collins & Co.
May 15/06 H.R.S.

R.P.
PEAKE, BIRD, COLLINS & CO
PARTNERS:
F. PEAKE.
ARTHUR BIRD.
P. G. COLLINS.
RONALD PEAKE.
A. HORACE BIRD.
TELEPHONE NO 60. HOLBORN.

1965
JAN 15 1906

169

6, BEDFORD ROW,
LONDON, W.C.

15th January, 1906.

Reference No. 1497.

Sir,

We beg to thank you for your letter of the 12th inst., announcing the death of Mr. George John Letablere Litton at Kingai, in China, on the 9th inst., and we have duly informed his relatives in accordance with your request.

Mr. Litton made a Will in November, 1897, of which his Cousin Mr. F. G. Barker (who will bring you this letter) is one of the Executors, and Mr. Ronald Peake of this firm, the other.

We have no reason to suppose that there is a subsequent Will, but before the Executors named in the Will which we have, apply for Probate, we think that it should be ascertained that the late Mr. Litton left no subsequent Will in China. Is it possible for you to ascertain by Telegram if there is any later Will in the hands of your representatives in China? or if you prefer it, will you give us the address of the Official with whom we should communicate?.

We are, Sir,

Your obedient servants.

Peake Bird & Collins

F. H. Villiers Esqre
Foreign Office.

[1965]

(170)

F. O.

Jan: 15, 1906.

Despatched 6.20 P. M

Draft

Sir E. Satow

Peking

Telegram.

(code)

21 words @ $\frac{3}{8}$

Cost = £3. 17/-

Your tel: of Jan: 12.
Ascertain if possible
whether Litton left
will or codicil
deposited with
Supreme Court or
amongst his papers
at Tengyueh.

(sd) Frey.

(17)

Sir
Cost of Telegram to Peking

£3. 17/- - 21 words @ ^{s. d.} 3/8

F. G. Cross

Whitehall Tel. Off.

Jan. 15/6

F. Gritton Esq. re.

G. H. Villiers.

1965

(172) F.O.
Jan. 17 06.

Draft

Messrs Peake, Bird, Collins & Co

6 Bedford Row

W.C.

Gentlemen,

I am directed by Sec^y Sir E. Grey to
ack: rec^t: of your letter of the 15th inst.
with regard to the estate of the late Mr
G. J. L. Litton.

In accordance with your request a Telegram
has been despatched to Mr. W. Min^r at Peking
desiring him to ascertain if possible whether
Mr Litton left a will or codicil deposited
with the Supreme Court at Shanghai or
among his papers at Tengyueh. I am to
add that the cost of this telegram will
be claimed from you in due course.

JH

(Sd) J. H. Villiers

F. O.,

May 17, 1906.

Draft.

Messrs Peake, Bird,
Collins & Co6 Bedford Row
W.C.SEEN BY THE
16 MAY 1906
CHIEF CLERK

Gentlemen,

I am directed by Sec. Sir
E. Grey to inform you that the
cost of the telegram referred
to in my letter of the 17th
of Jan^y last resp. the late
Mr G. J. L. Litton is £3 . 17^s.

I am to request that
you will be good enough
to forward to this Dept a
cheque or order for that
amount, made payable to
"The Chief Clerk, Foreign
Office". (Signed) F. Barrington.

1906.

Consular.

CHINA.

4490

FEB 6 1906

F. 1497

174

Peking
February 6

No. 4490

Telegram.

(Subject.)

Sir E. Satow

Death of Cons. Litton

His will is being forwarded from
Tengyueh to Supreme Court.

Last Paper.

1965

(Print.)

(Minutes.)

A representative of Messrs Peake Bird Collins & Co called here yesterday
and wanted all sorts of information which I could not give
him. I told him to write, but as they may not do so for some
days we had better let them have the substance of this tel. at once.

(How disposed of.)

G.H.V. 6/2/06.

Jac T.

See (4607)

(Action
completed.)

JH

(Index.)

210

Next Paper.

4607

(Decode) TELEGRAM

FROM

Sir E. Satow
Peking

4490

FEB 6 1906

(175)

Dated

Received

} 6 Feb. 1906

Your telegram of January 15
Litton's Will is being forwarded
from Tientsin to Supreme Court.

TELEGRAM.

1906.

6 Feb.

Consular.

CHINA.

4607
FEB 7 1906

176

No. 4607

Received by F. 1494

less
Peake, Bird Collins
Co.

(Subject.)

Late Mr G. J. L. Litton

What salary is due, & what steps
taken to wind up estate in China?
When may reply be expected to telegram
to Peking

Last Paper.

4490

(Print.)

(Minutes.)

SEEN BY THE

-9 FEB 1906

CHIEF CLERK

See 4490.

For steps to be taken to wind up estate, say that the Supreme Court
at Shanghai will deal with the matter & refer them to Arts 103-112
of the China & Great Britain O-in-C, enclosing copy.

C.C. as to amount of salary due.

G.M. 6/2/06.

(How disposed of.)

Mr. Peake Bird Collins
Co.

Feb. 14 1906

SEEN BY THE

17 FEB 1906

CHIEF CLERK

Mr Litton drew his salary locally
& presumably it was paid within
up to Dec 31 last. If this were so
there is only a small balance due
from Jan 1 to Jan 9 the date of death.
But this is subject to any adjustments
that may be necessary on the Japanese
Account

(Action
completed.)

(Index.)

8.

210

Next Paper.

6136

Accounts for Sept Q. (now under
examination) & for Dec Q. (not yet
received). At present, then, we
cannot say how much is due to
Littor.

L.H.

Query inform Messrs. Peake as to that
it is not possible at present to state
what Balance of Salary is due to Mr.
Littor but that ~~in all probability~~ the
amount will be very small because
he would no doubt have $\frac{1}{2}$
already received his salary to Dec 31

Wll

PEAKE, BIRD, COLLINS & CO

PARTNERS:

F. PEAKE.

ARTHUR BIRD.

P. G. COLLINS.

RONALD PEAKE.

A. HORACE BIRD.

TELEPHONE NO 60. HOLBORN.

6, BEDFORD ROW,
LONDON, W.C.

6th February 1906.

Dear Sir,

G. J. L. Litton Esq deceased.

No. 1965.

4607

FEB 7 1906

With reference to your letter of the 17th ult, and our subsequent call at the Foreign Office yesterday we shall be glad if you can inform us when it is likely that you will receive a reply to the telegram that you dispatched at our request to His Majesty's Minister at Peking. We shall be obliged if you will also inform us what amount is due to our late clients' estate for salary to the date of his death, and also what steps, if any, will be taken to wind up his affairs in China.

We are, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully
Peake, Bird, Collins & Co

The Secretary
of State
Foreign Office.
London.

(4607)

Draft

Messrs Peake, Rind Collins & Co

6 Bedford Row

W.C.

SEEN BY THE
10 FEB 1906
CHIEF CLERK

(Seen by Hurst)

Gentlemen,

With ref. to your letter of the 6th inst. I am directed by Sec^y Sir E. Grey to inform you that a telegram has been rec^d from H.M. Min^r at Peking reporting that the late Mr Litton's will is being forwarded from Tientsin to the Supreme Court at Shanghai. The estate will be wound up in due course by the Supreme Court under the provisions of Arts 103-112 of the China & Corea O-in-C 1904, a copy of which is enclosed herewith.

I am to add that it is not yet possible to state what balance of salary is due to the estate, but that the amount will be very small, as Mr Litton would no doubt have rec^d his salary up to Dec. 31st last in China.

(Signed) E. Barrington.

F.O. 178
Feb. 14 06.

1906.

Consular.

CHINA.

6136

FEB 19 1906

179

14 Feb.

No. 6136

Received by

F1497

(Subject.)

Estate of late Mr. G. Litton.

Is the will in China a duplicate of that in England? Requests inquiry. What procedure exactly will be followed in China.

Last Paper.

4607

(Print.)

(Minutes.)

I saw a representative of the firm this morning and in accordance with Mr Davidson's suggestion I told him that they must appoint a legal representative at Shanghai to deal with Mr Litton's estate & that we could not look after the matter for them.

X
GHW. 21/2/06.

E/3

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)

88

(Index.)

210

Next Paper.

11952

R.P.
PEAKE, BIRD, COLLINS & CO
PARTNERS:
F. PEAKE.
ARTHUR BIRD.
P. G. COLLINS.
RONALD PEAKE.
A. HORACE BIRD.
TELEPHONE NO 60. HOLBORN.

6136
FEB 19 1906

180

6, BEDFORD ROW,
LONDON, W.C.

17th February, 1906.

Reference No. 4607.

Sir, We thank you for your letter of the 14th inst.

As we mentioned in our letter of the 15th January last., the late Mr. George Litton made a Will on the 16th November 1897. This Will was drawn by us, and in accordance with Mr. Litton's express instructions was prepared in duplicate so that one copy could be kept with his papers in China and the other copy could be returned to us. The two copies were sent to him, and on the 17th November 1897 he wrote to us from Chungking returning one copy duly signed and he stated in his letter that he retained the other copy; he further asked us to note that he had made a short Codicil in China which had reference to certain affairs of his out there. Although we have been constantly in correspondence with him on business matters he has never mentioned that he had revoked his Will and we do not for a moment believe that he has done so.

You state in your letter of the 14th inst., however, that a Will had been forwarded from Teng Yueh to the Supreme Court in Shanghai and no doubt this is the Will we prepared, the duplicate copy of which we hold in England. Are you able to tell us

whether this document will be forwarded from the Supreme Court in Shanghai to the Executors named who are in England, and if not what course will be adopted.

Your letter further states that the Estate will be wound up in due course by the Supreme Court in Shanghai under the provisions of Articles 103-112 of the China and Corea Order in Council 1904, a copy of which you are good enough to enclose.

We presume this to mean that Mr. Litton's personal Estate in China only, will be administered by the Supreme Court at Shanghai, leaving the Will to be proved in the ordinary course by the Executors named therein in the English Courts, and we shall be glad if you can tell us whether this is so. Our clients the Executors, are anxious to learn as soon as possible whether it is the fact (as we suppose) that the Will referred to in your letter of the 14th inst., is the duplicate Will of which we have the original copy here, and it occurs to us that the quickest way in which this can be ascertained will be to send a copy of the Will we hold to His Majesty's Minister at Peking with a request that he will telegraph back whether the Will he has is the duplicate copy. Will the Foreign Office kindly undertake to ~~send~~ send a copy out to His Majesty's Minister if we send one to you for that purpose?

We may mention that it is a matter of some urgency that it should be ascertained as soon as possible whether the Will

made in 1897 is the last Will or not; Mr. George Litton left an annuity under that Will to his father who is of advanced years and of small means, and it is a matter of the greatest importance that he should know whether any, and if any, what provisions have been made for him by his son.

We regret to have to trouble you so fully in this matter but the circumstances are somewhat peculiar and it is difficult to know what is the best to be done under the circumstances.

We are, Sir,

Your obedient servants.

Robert Birt

The Under Secretary of State,
Foreign Office,
London. S.W.

190 6.

Consular.

China.

Peking.

February 21. 1906

No. 11952

Received by Bag

F. 149)

11952

APR 7 1906

(Subject.)

Sir E. Satow

h. 73

Death of Mr. Litton

too young as deep giving sad details of.

Last Paper.

6136
(10225/10)
Kept separately

(Print.)

(Minutes.)

Consular Dept for comm. to Solicitors
for information of ^{those interested} ~~Mr. Litton's father~~.

D.A.

(How disposed of.)

Off Mr. Peake Bird Collection

Apr. 11. 06

(see also 10225/06, kept by
itself.)

(Action
completed.)

(Index.)

Next Paper.

16773.

184



11952

BRITISH LEGATION, APR 7 1906

No. 73.

PEKING.

February 21st, 1906.

Sir,

With reference to my Despatch No. 45
of February 6th, I have the honour to forward to
you, herewith, copy of a Despatch which I have
received from H.M. Consul-General at Yunnanfu
reporting the sad circumstances of the death of
Mr. Litton, His Majesty's late Consul at Tengyueh.

I have the honour to be,

With the highest respect,

sir,

Your most obedient,

humble Servant,

Ernest Satow

The Right Honourable

Sir Edward Grey, Bart.,

etc. etc. etc.

*Yunnan No. 2 P.T.
Jan 15. 1906.*

Copy.

11952

APR 7 1906

P.A. No. 2.

Yunnan Fu, January 15th, 1906.

Received February 20th, 1906.

Sir,

It is with the deepest regret that I report to you the death of Mr. George Litton, His Majesty's Consul at Tengyueh. He died, - as I learnt only last night by a telegram from ^{Mr} Napier, Assistant in charge of the Tengyueh Customs, - on the 9th instant, of fever, at Kan-ngai, a Shan town about halfway between Tengyueh and the Burma frontier.

My latest letters from Mr. Litton are dated Tengyueh, December 15th, and "Survey Camp near Kangai", December 26th. The former begins, "I got back two days ago, and am very tired and knocked up" the latter ends, "I have had too much work and not enough play lately".

Mr. Litton, as you are aware, spent November and part of December in an endeavour to explore the trackless country along the 'Nmaikha-Salwen watershed, between his northernmost point attained last spring, and the borders of Wei Hsi Sub-Prefecture. The general results of this, his last of many adventurous and successful journeys, he communicated to me in the telegram of which I submitted to you an abstract on the 11th December. In that telegram he

he spoke of the "great hardships" he had suffered; and it is evident that he returned to Tengyueh very much debilitated. Nevertheless he pushed on almost at once to meet near the frontier the party of engineers from Burma who are engaged in surveying for the proposed Bhamo-Tengyueh railway, and it is, it would seem, in their camp that he died.

As was his wont he had allowed himself no rest. "I have been terribly busy" he wrote on December 26th, "with the Salwen Report, the survey etc. etc." The Salwen Report, last of a long series unsurpassed in interest and value since the days of Colborne Baber, was, I trust, completed before Mr. Litton's death, and will, I hope, be now on its way to the Legation through this Consulate-General.

Mr. Napier is charging himself with all necessary arrangements for the funeral, and I have suggested to him, in my telegram of acknowledgment, that, if possible, Mr. Litton's body should rest in the Bhamo cemetery, alongside the grave of Baber, whose work in Western China he took up and for these past ten years so worthily pursued. Mr. Litton was, I believe, an orphan, with no near relatives whose wishes could be consulted in this matter.

I have begged Mr. Napier to seal up all that is important among the effects at the Tengyueh Consulate, pending the arrival of Mr. Ottewill. The latter is, I gather, still in Burma, but I have telegraphed to the Rangoon Government requesting that he may be asked to inform me by telegram of his movements.

I have etc.

(Signed) W.H. Wilkinson.



F. O.,

April 11, 1906.

Draft.

~~Messrs Birch & Birch~~
Peake, Bird, Collins
& Co.
6 Bedford Row
W.C.

Sir E. Satow
no. 73

Gentlemen

With ref. to my letter of
Feb. 14 last,
I am directed by Sec Sir E. Grey
to transmit to you herewith,
for communication to the
persons interested, a copy of
a desp. from A. M. Consul
General at Yunnanfu re-
porting the circumstances of
the death of the late Mr
George Litton.

(Signed) E. Barrington.

Jas

1906.

CONSULAR.

16773

MAY 16 1906

Peking.

China.

April 5, 1906.

No. 16773

Received by Bag

F. 149

(Subject.)

Sir E. Satow.

Death of Mr. Litton

No. 47.

Transmits report from Acting-Consul H. A. Ottewill.

Last Paper.

11952

(Print.)

(Minutes.)

we have not had this report before.
? copy to the late Mr. Litton's
solicitors for such action as they
may think fit. (we are not
communicating with Mr. Litton's
family direct).

(How disposed of.)

Messrs Peake Bird & Collins
May 21, 1906 ✓

NOTED C. C. DEPT.

✓ China Dept

R. S.

Mr. Litton's energy in carrying out the
duties of his post in spite of ill-health was
no doubt largely responsible for his death. He
was from a political point of view a most
valuable officer and did excellent work
in Yunnan.

A. G. B.

(Action
completed.)

(Index.)

210

Next Paper.

17233.

189

PEKING,

April 5, 1906.

No. 47.

Consular. Sir:-

16773

MAY 16 1906

With reference to my telegram to you of January 12th.

last, I now have the honour to enclose herewith copy of a despatch which I have received from Mr. H. A. Ottewill, His Majesty's Acting Consul at Tengyueh, giving detailed information of the circumstances of the death of the late Mr. G.

J. L. Litton.

Tengyueh No. 2
counts.
Feb. 7, 1906.

From a telegraphic communication from Mr. Ottewill, I learn that the report was transmitted under flying seal to Rangoon for the information of the Government of Burma. Mr. Ottewill also states in addition to the particulars given in his despatch, that the Chinese officials not only accompanied the funeral to the Cemetery, but detached a company of men as an escort.

To this report I have nothing to add but the expression of my high appreciation of the eminent services of Mr. Litton and my sincere regret at the death of so loyal and devoted a public servant.

I have the honour to be,
with the highest respect,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

The Right Honourable Sir Edward Grey, Bart.,

Ernest Satow

&c.,

&c.,

&c.

16773
MAY 16 1906

190

Enclosure in Sir E. Satow's No. 47, Consular of
April 5, 1906.

Mr. Acting Consul Ottewill to Sir E. Satow.

Copy.

Tengyueh, February 7th, 1906.

P. A. No. 2.

Sir:-

I regret to report the death of Mr. G. Litton, His Majesty's Consul here. The sad event occurred on the 9th of January near Kan-ai on the main road from Bhamo while he was returning from Simapa where he had been to consult with the Civil Officer, Mr. Wilson, as to some raids by Kachin Chinese on British territory.

The last European to see him alive was Mr. Mengel, of the Imperial Chinese Telegraphs, who met him at Manwyne on the 6th January. He has informed me that Mr. Litton seemed to be well, but complained of a red mark on his right shoulder which looked like a blister. Neither of them attached much importance to it. From Manwyne, Mr. Litton made slow stages towards Tengyueh and died about three miles this side of Kan-ai. Messages had been sent ahead to the Railway survey camp and to the Consulate informing them that he was ill. On receipt of the message,

Captain

Captain Watt Smythe of the Railway survey, hurried to meet him, and took his native doctor with him. They met the chair on the road, but Mr. Litton was already dead. The body was hurried up to the Consulate, Captain Watt Smythe accompanying the cortege. Thanks to the good offices of the Honourable C. Napier, the Commissioner of Customs, and Mr. G. Forrest, who was staying at the Consulate, a coffin was prepared and the funeral arranged for the next day, January 11th. The Chinese officials allowed the funeral procession to pass through the city from the East Gate to the South Gate, and accompanied it themselves to the grave which is in the Customs Cemetery outside the South Gate.

I have the honour to enclose herewith a certificate of death, and a Report both signed by Dr. Ram Lall Sircar, the Medical Officer attached to this Consulate. The Doctor gives it as his opinion that Mr. Litton died from erysipelas attended with high fever.

As you are aware Mr. Litton had been ill for the last few months, and was on the point of proceeding to Europe for medical treatment, but in spite of his illness he had recently made three long journeys and was contemplating a further one.

His



His devotion to his duties as Consul, and desire for original and accurate information forced him to undertake long and arduous journeys which in his bad state of health enfeebled his constitution to such an extent that it was unable to withstand the disease to which he fell a victim. By his death the Government have lost the services of an Officer whose efficiency and capability are well known to you, and one who placed his life and health at stake in the execution of his duties; while his present friends will deplore his too early death. He was an intrepid explorer and had greatly extended the world's knowledge of the province of Yunnan of which he had made a special study and on which he had become the greatest living authority.

In conclusion I desire to place on record the good offices of Mr. G. Forrest and especially of the Honourable C. Napier and the members of his staff with regard to the arrangement for Mr. Litton's funeral and their care of the property lying in the Consulate, both official and private, during the period between his unfortunate death and my arrival.

I have &c.,

(Signed) H. A. Ottewill.

193

16773
MAY 16 1906

COPY.

I, R. L. Sircar, Medical Officer to H. B. M. Consul,
Tengyueh, do hereby certify that Mr. G. Libton, H. B. M.
Consul, Tengyueh, died of erysipelas attended with high
fever on the noon of the 9th. January, 1906, at Kan-ai
during his tour on the Burmah frontier.

(Signed) Ram Lal Sircar.

Medical Officer to
Tengyueh, H.B.M.Consul, Tengyueh.
January 11, 1906.

194

16773

MAY 16 1906



COPY.

Clinical Note about the late Mr. G. Litton.

Previous history: Since last three years of my service at the Consulate, Mr. Litton had been often complaining of giddiness, buzzing noise in the left ear, dyspepsia, and occasional fainting. Mr. Litton told me that a French doctor at Yunnanfu diagnosed his disease as "anaemia of the brain" caused by malaria, and the doctor accordingly prescribed Liq. Arsenicalis mixture. Mr. Litton continued this treatment for many months which gave him some temporary relief, but all the symptoms appeared again. My diagnosis was that the buzzing noise in the ear and the feeling of giddiness was due to gastric disorders. I treated him for this for a short time which also gave him some relief.

A few months ago Mr. Litton told me again that Dr. Barry, Civil Surgeon of Maymyo, told him that a bad throat was the cause of his suffering from giddiness and noise in the ear. So the doctor advised him to continue Liq. ~~Arsenicalis~~ Arsenicalis with a view to improve his general health and to take certain inhalation as well in order to improve the condition of his throat. This treatment was continued by him till the end of last year.

After

After his return from the Salween valley during the last December, Mr. Litton suffered from slight attacks of fever and diarrhoea. These being cured he left for the Burma frontier.

Present History: Mr. Litton's head servant who attended on him during his illness gave me the following history: He said that till the 11th. day of Chinese moon (5th. January, 1906) Mr. Litton was well, and often he used to go out for shooting. On this day he was at Tai-phing-kai village, 6th. January, he came at Manshien village. In the morning he complained of pain on the right side of his chest, upper part, and there was a red spot on the upper front part of ~~the~~ chest where he complained of pain. In the morning he took usual food and his bowels moved and he passed urine as usual. In the evening he complained of increased pain, and the area of redness was also increased. He had slight fever at night, and took some congee as evening meal. 7th January: Pain was very severe and the redness of the skin extended upwards and downwards. A feeling of hot sensation was complained of in the affected part. Bowels moved scantily, urine was normal, occasional vomiting, high fever, no sleep at night, could not take any food



food except little congee and soup. He was brought to Man-ch'ang-kai 8th January. The redness of the skin extended downward to thigh and upward to neck. The affected part of his body was complained of so hot as it was unbearable. Fever very high, vomiting very often, motion of bowels scanty, urine was passed as usual, no sleep at day or night. A plaster made of soap and sugar was put on the right side of chest. Could not take any nourishment. 9th. January. Mr. Litton was very bad, complained of his inability in passing urine. Then, he the head servant, and the others got alarmed, they sent a man to Tengyueh and one man was also sent to the survey party doctor. In this condition he was being carried to Kangai. He could speak a few words when asked. Used to talk some delirious word now and then. He arrived at Kangai at about 11 a.m. and died at 12 noon..

The survey party doctor arrived immediately after his death. We got information at about 9 p.m. of the 9th January, and ^{we} left at 10 p.m. but we met the body at about 16 miles from Tengyueh.

Postmortem examination:

The body arrived at Tengyueh at about 1 p.m. of 10th January, and the examination was held at about 2 p.m. viz, 26 hours after death.

Rigor mortis present. There was a scratch on the right side of chest about two inches below the collar bone, and also one scratch on the left side of chest. There were no other marks of injuries except some blisters on the right side of chest which the servant said were due to the application of plaster mentioned above. Mouth and eyes were closed, both pupils of the eyes were dilated. The lips were dry and somewhat red in colour, usually noticed in some fever cases. The tongue was dry but not discoloured. The teeth and gum were not covered with ^{sores}~~wounds~~. Ear, nose and urethral opening appeared to be in normal condition. There was some faint yellowish ⁱ~~tan~~ around the scratches. There was ^{no} swelling of any glands, and none were found enlarged. There was no redness on the skin of chest. The bladder shewed no sign of distention, and it appeared there was no large quantity of urine in it.

It was not thought advisable to cut the body open and examine the viscera so I am unable to form any opinion about their actual condition,

Opinion



16773

MAY 16 1906

198

Opinion:

From a close study of the history and symptoms described by the servant as well as the post mortem examination held externally, I have no doubt that Mr. Litton died of simple cutaneous erysipelas attended with very high fever. His previous poor health was also an indirect cause of such a quick fatal end. The invasion probably started from the scratch on the chest mentioned above.

(Signed) Ram Lall Sircar

Medical Officer to H.B.M.

Consul, Tengyueh.

Tengyueh, January 12, 1906.

1906.

Consular.

CHINA.

17233

MAY 19 1906

No. 17233

Received by

F1497

May 18

(Subject.)

Death of Mrs. Litton

Will obtain signatures of executor's
for amount due for telegrams. Presumes
they will hear later as to amount due for
salary &c.

Last Paper.

16773
~~16861~~

1965

(Print.)

(Minutes.)

Act 19/5

C.C.

R.S.

(How disposed of.)

NOTED C. C. DEPT.

Comp. to Messrs
Peake & Co
sending order
for balance of salary
explaining as to
inc. tax refund
July 7/06

(Action
completed.)

(Index.)

210

Next Paper.

17229

Messrs Peake & Co's presumption
is correct but as Mr Litton did
not die until Jan 9 we shall have
to see whether there are any adjust-
ments to be made in respect of the
January ap for the March Quarter
The refund of Income Tax due to
Mr Litton as Insurance Premiums
was charged by him in his ap for
the Dec Qr 1905 & has been duly
allowed.

Order prep'd
for balance of salary 48.63
July 6/06
cancelled + fresh
order sent
July 9/06

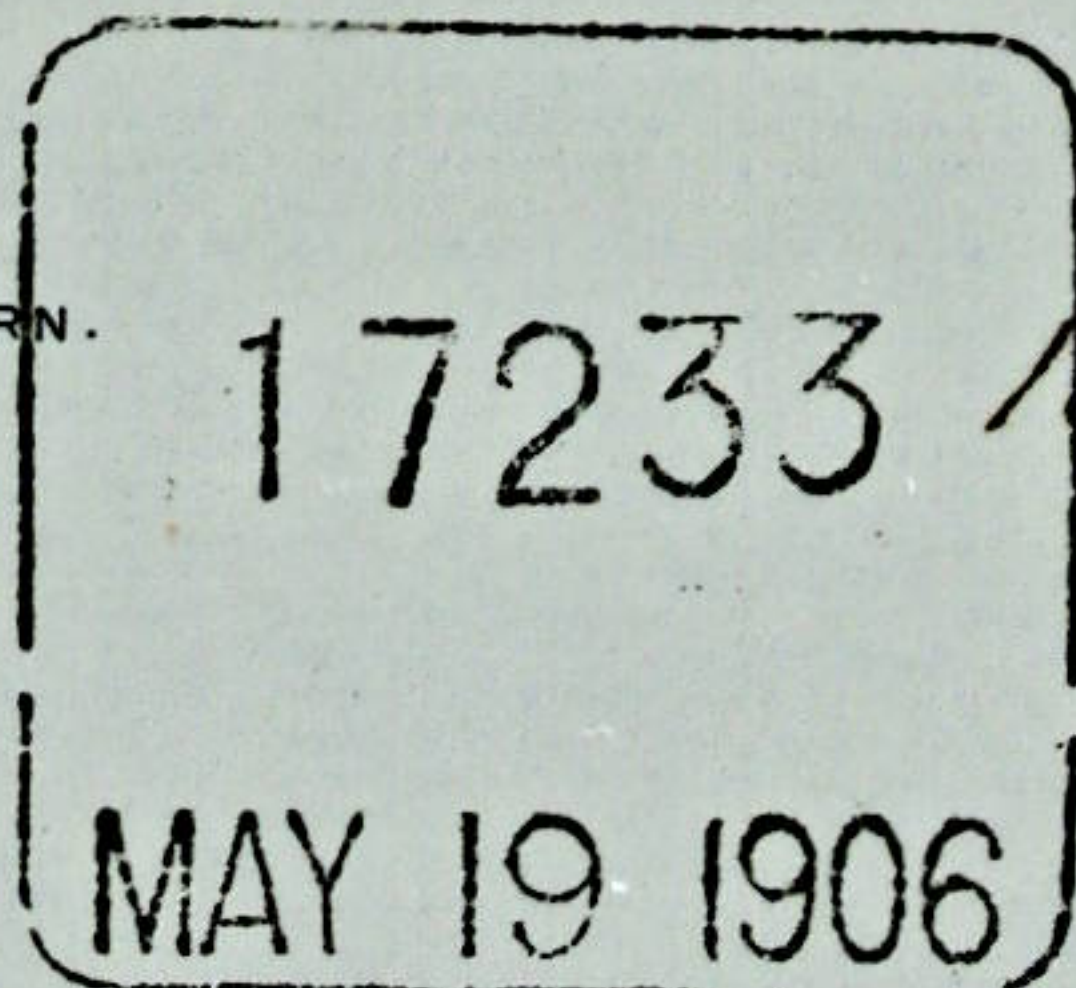
PEAKE, BIRD, COLLINS & CO

PARTNERS:
F. PEAKE.
ARTHUR BIRD.
P. G. COLLINS.
RONALD PEAKE.
A. HORACE BIRD.

TELEPHONE NO 60. HOLBORN.

6, BEDFORD ROW,
LONDON, W.C.

200



Dear Sir,

No 1965.

G. J. L. Hitton deceased.

We have to acknowledge receipt
of your letter of yesterday's date;
we will get the Executors' signatures
to a cheque for the amount due.
We presume we shall in due course
hear the amount due to this estate
for salary and allowances to the
date of the late Mr. Hitton's death
and for return of income tax on
insurance premiums.

We remain

Yours faithfully

Peake Bird Collins

The Under Secretary
of State.
Foreign Office.
London.

PEAKE, BIRD, COLLINS & CO

PARTNERS:

F. PEAKE.

ARTHUR BIRD.

P. G. COLLINS.

RONALD PEAKE.

A. H. RACE BIRD.

TELEPHONE NO 60. HOLBORN.

6, BEDFORD ROW,

LONDON, W.C.

201



6th June 1906.

Dear Sir,

S. J. L. Litton deceased.
No. 1965.

We thank you for returning the
probate of the late Mr. Litton's will
and shall be glad to have full
particulars of the amount due to his
estate at your early convenience.

Yours faithfully
Ernest H. H. H. H.

The Under Secretary
of State,
Foreign Office.
London.

© 1906.

Consular.

CHINA.

17829

202

MAY 24 1906

May 23

No. 17829

Received by

F. 1497

(Subject.)

Peake Bird
Collins & Co.

Death of Cons. Litter

Is. cheque for £3.17.0 in
payt of xbs of telegram.

Last Paper.

17233

(Print.)

(Minutes.)

ack'd 24/5

c.c.

R.S.

(How disposed of.)

To PG.
pay 25/06

NOTED C. C. DEPT.

(Action
completed.)

8

(Index.)

210

Next Paper.

Enc.

(203)

PEAKE, BIRD, COLLINS & CO

PARTNERS:

F. PEAKE.

ARTHUR BIRD.

P. G. COLLINS.

RONALD PEAKE.

A. HORACE BIRD.

TELEPHONE NO 60. HOLBORN.

6, BEDFORD ROW,

LONDON, W.C.

23rd May 1906.

Dear Sir.

G. J. L. Litton Esq deceased.

No 1965.

We enclose the executors' cheque
for £3-17-0 as asked for in your letter
of the 17th inst., please send us a
formal receipt.

Yours faithfully
Peake Bird Collins

17829

MAY 24 1906

The Under Secretary of State.

Foreign Office.

London.

(Del to Peking)
Jan 15/06